

1 for your time.

2 KRISHNA CHATURVEDULA: Good evening by name is

3 Krishna Chaturvedula, C-H-A-T-U-R-V-E-D-U-L-A. I

4 thank you very much forgiving me an opportunity to

5 speak this evening. I've ridden bicycles all my

6 life, but it's only a year ago I started riding a

7 mountain bike, at which point the purpose and the

8 objective of my riding changed from exercise to

9 pleasure. I consider myself extremely lucky to be

10 able to live in an area with such natural beauty,

11 and I'm glad for all the people who have contributed

12 to building the trails for my enjoyment, and the

13 enjoyment of everybody else, and I thought that I

14 would do any share to make sure that others after me

15 have the opportunity to get the same enjoyment from

16 the trails. I will do whatever I can to do that,

17 and if it means that I come in and stand in front of

18 you people to talk to you all people requesting

19 multi use trails, so be it. If it means that I go

20 and spend six hours working on a trail to build the

21 trail and maintain it, so be it. There are

22 sometimes when on the trails I felt geez, why

23 couldn't somebody make this trail a little bit

24 better, but you know if it's an outer trail the

25 trail is like that because it's been designed that

1 way. I'm more than happy to get off the trail and  
2 let a horse pass by. I've done that a number of  
3 times. I have a little bell on my bicycle  
4 underneath the seat, I don't have to do anything, as  
5 I keep riding it warns people, and many horse riders  
6 have said, that's a neat idea. So I'm very happy  
7 that I can do that. I have two daughters, and um,  
8 I'm forty-one years old by the way. I have two  
9 daughters age six and two and my elder daughter  
10 every time I come back from a ride she says, "Daddy,  
11 when will you take me on the ride, and I hope when  
12 she grows up, and she's old enough to ride the  
13 trails, the trails are there for her and they don't  
14 get closed off because a group of people wants to  
15 have exclusive use of certain public property.  
16 There are some trails on which I would not ride a  
17 bike. The Steven-Colfax(sic) is an example of that,  
18 it's very narrow. What happens if a mountain lion  
19 jumps out at me, or a rabbit, or a snake. The same  
20 thing, at least humans are not as dangerous as  
21 mountain lions. They listen to you, you can reason  
22 with them. So I think we should all try to  
23 understand each other. Another point, motor bikes  
24 on the road move fast and many drivers would  
25 probably have motor bikes banned from the roads

1 because of the accidents that they cause, but we can  
2 not have that. Let's all share the natural beauty  
3 that California has to offer, and whatever is  
4 required to make the trail safer, I shall definately  
5 contribute to that, thank you, very much.

6 JOHN GARDINER: Hi, everybody, my name is John  
7 Gardiner. I'm with the International Mountain Bike  
8 Association and Bicyclists of Nevada County. Um,  
9 I'm a pretty new dad. I've got a two and a half  
10 year old girs, and a six month old baby. What does  
11 that mean? No free time. Um, I used to love doing  
12 rides were I would get in my car and I would drive  
13 up to Donner, I'd go to Tahoe, I'd go all these  
14 different places, but I don't have that sort of time  
15 now, so what I typically do is, I hop on my bike,  
16 and ride on over to Empire Mine. The same lopps  
17 over and over and over, but I'm very lucky though  
18 regardless of that, you know why? Because I live  
19 close to an area that it's public lands and it's  
20 public trails. And you in Oroville here are also  
21 very lucky, you have that opportunity on public, and  
22 I stress public, not private lands, to recreate in a  
23 healthfull way. And I've heard some people speak  
24 tonight of the about the spirit of cooperation, and  
25 I know the gentlemen from the Blue Ribbon Coalition

1 talked about trails advocacy organization  
2 representing different groups, and I think that's  
3 absolutely fantastic idea. I think that's really  
4 what needs to happen in this particular situation.  
5 We have something like that in Nevada County with  
6 bicyclists in Nevada County and the Gold Country  
7 Trail's Council, where I have a relationship with  
8 the president, and he comes to me, and he tells me  
9 about problems between equestrians and cyclists on  
10 the trail, and I try to educate people I know in the  
11 community who aren't, you know, acting the way they  
12 should on trail. So you equestrians you have  
13 thousands of years of tradition and culture in your  
14 sport, and mountain biking's really only been around  
15 for less than 30 years. So you have a history of  
16 protocol, what you do and what you don't do on  
17 trails. So we can use a type of education from you.  
18 So we really need to work together and, and if you  
19 folks have any kind of information you want to  
20 impart with me tonight about the message you'd like  
21 to hear, bicyclists hear, about horses on trails,  
22 please let me know, but I think we can all get along  
23 and share our public trails, thank you.

24 BRAD CORKIN: Hello, my name is Brad Corkin,  
25 C-O-R-K-I-N. Um, life long resident of Oroville.

1 Uh, I remember riding my Honda over these trails  
2 when you weren't supposed to do that. Forturately,  
3 my father was an attorney who hated laws that were  
4 stopped particular interests groups, so he'd cut the  
5 gates whenever they stuck 'em up or they'd cut the  
6 padlocks, so I learned from kind of a bad side  
7 there. And speaking of bicycle story about Collin's  
8 Lake. I was over there just the other day, and I  
9 rode with my wife we have a nice size road bike, and  
10 I rode over to Collin's Lake to look at a trailer of  
11 my sister's -- but anyway, when I got there it had a  
12 sign up, "No bikes allowed." Not, not a, not bike a  
13 motor -- I'm sorry, mountain bikes, but motorcycles.  
14 I couldn't go into Collin's Lake on a motor bike.  
15 Small people -- certain people give every sport a  
16 bad name. Equestrians, somebody's been a jerk out  
17 there on, on the bikes, somebody's been a jerk out  
18 there and it's given everybody a bad name. People,  
19 we've got to work together. The state has a very  
20 big what I want to call policy, it's called divide  
21 and conquer. That's what they're doing here people.  
22 You're letting the state divide us. This community  
23 has been divided, and the longer they divide it, the  
24 worst it's gonna be to get anything. We have money.  
25 The money's there. As Mike and a couple of others

1 have tried to note, it's there. You're not going to  
2 get anything if you don't get together here. That's  
3 the whole thing, you have got to get together.  
4 Until we do that, why is the state gonna go with a  
5 license, why aren't we, why isn't the county? The  
6 state has not done the license correctly, that means  
7 it can, it can be ours. Tell your county  
8 representsives, let's put in your our own plan.  
9 Would you rather work the county? I know some  
10 contractors may not want to, but overall for the  
11 state, I think I'd rather work with the county. If  
12 you put in your own plan, you have a very good  
13 chance of getting a plan, even if the state wins,  
14 but you have a leverage point. Trails. I love  
15 trails. You know, I've, I've rode horses. I've rode  
16 bikes, motorcycles, a mountain bike, I've walked  
17 them, got a big old horse tell me how far you're  
18 gonna walk. Uh, they're multi use, they're out  
19 there for everyone. Yes, we can have two alongside  
20 each other, somebody's going to take the shortest  
21 route. I don't care how many of them you build,  
22 okay, somebody's gonna do it. There's a 162 miles  
23 of shore line, from what I've heard here, and about  
24 70 miles of biking trails. Somthing's wrong with  
25 that number. If you want to ride a horse, and you

1 don't want a bike, a 162 miles of shoreline, I've  
2 got a house, but I'm trying to tell you I've walked  
3 many a mile of shore line, I could, if I had a horse  
4 you could do a lot guide a horse you could do a lot  
5 of walking. The lake, come on, when is it to the  
6 maximum top? I'd love to see a trail all the way  
7 around that lake, if you have to boom, but don't go  
8 divide and conquer.

9 MICHAEL SEATTER: My name is Michael Seatter,  
10 S-E-A-T-T-E-R. Um, first of all, I'd like to thank  
11 everyone for coming out here, and taking their time  
12 this evening. Uh, just to get an idea, I'd like to  
13 ask briefly those of you who support multiple use on  
14 public lands, to briefly stand up, please? (A number  
15 of people stand.) Thank you, so much. I also want  
16 to thank the State Parks for being here. Um, I'm  
17 here as a graduate of the California State  
18 University, Chico, Recreation Management Program,  
19 and also representing approximately 30 members of  
20 the Yosemite Area Mountain Bike Organization. Um, I  
21 live and work in Yosemite National Park, and I am  
22 restricted from riding my bicycle on the trails in  
23 Yosemite National Park. In the outlying areas that  
24 I do ride, I've encountered equestrians numerous  
25 times, always on a very pleasant and friendly basis.

1 Um, I'm here tonight, I did do the bike ride with  
2 the members of IMBA today. We did encounter a  
3 number of equestrians, all very friendly, pleasant,  
4 and glad to see us out enjoying the trails as well.  
5 I think we are wasting our time here tonight. I  
6 believe that with all us multiple users here we  
7 could be performing trail work. Extending the trail  
8 network here, and taking advantage of the beautiful  
9 surroundings here at Lake Oroville. For those  
10 equestrians that are having conflicts with mountain  
11 bikers in this area, I invite you to come and  
12 riding in Yosemite National Park where there are  
13 over eight hundred miles of trails that are open to  
14 hikers and equestrians, but restricted to mountain  
15 bikers, thank you again tonight for being here.

16 KATHIE O'BRIEN OROZCO: Good evening, I'm Cathy  
17 O'Brian, Orozco, O-R-O-Z-C-O. I'm a 57-year-old  
18 mountain bike enthusiast. My husband 60 years old.  
19 We and our two sons have been riding mountain bikes  
20 for over 20 years. We've ridden the trails of all  
21 the western United States, and some midwestern  
22 states. In all those years and miles we have never  
23 spooked a horse. We ride the Granit Bay multi use  
24 trails constantly. Whenever we see equestrians, we  
25 pull over and wait for them. They're always



1 friendly and courteous. I was raised in Oroville  
2 and I often visit my Dad, Bob O'Brien and my brother  
3 Ned. Years ago it was like pulling teeth to get my  
4 husband to come here. Thanks to the multi use  
5 trails he is eager to come often, and we have more  
6 fun riding our tandem mountain bike on all the multi  
7 use trails. I'd hate to see our alternate days  
8 taken away from us, thank you.

9 VICKIE PARSONS: Hello, my name is Vicky Parsons,  
10 and I'm very nervous, but my passion is the mountain  
11 bike. And um, to me it's what makes my heart sing.  
12 And I think that multi use trails is definitely the  
13 way to go. Um, I am disabled person, so, I've never  
14 had any problems riding the trails of the Olmstead  
15 loop, and it is both equestrian and multi use,  
16 mountain bike, and my husband and I always stop for  
17 the equestrian riders, and we always exchange  
18 smiles, and I don't see any problems. I've never  
19 seen a problem with the two. I enjoy seeing the  
20 horses, and I enjoy seeing people that ride horses  
21 as long as we all get along I just don't see any  
22 problems. I've lived in Marysville most of my life,  
23 and um, I'm just happy to be here, be a part of  
24 this, thank you.

25 MARK WOLFORD: Good evening, my name is Mark

1 Woflord, W-O-L-F-O-R-D. 47 years old. During my  
2 life I've owned 8 bicycles and 14 horses. There was  
3 a time that I spent a lot of time training trail  
4 endurance horses, Jim Canto(sic) horses. I've never  
5 spent time that I have more rewards than when I'm  
6 out on the trails on both horses, cycling, skis,  
7 hiking, back packing, mountaineering, that  
8 experience is valuable to everyone. I support the  
9 multi use trail concept wholeheartedly. I've been  
10 in the situation on the horses where responsibility  
11 is the key. I have watched a sixteen and half hand  
12 Arab, go over a 30 foot cliff. It's not a pretty  
13 sight. It's responsible to train a horse to  
14 properly handle multi use trails. It's not just a  
15 bicycle that spooks and scares a horse that's not  
16 trained properly, there's numerous things. I have  
17 been on the back of a horse where I ended up on the  
18 ground due to a mouse. That horse that went over  
19 the cliff was due to a creek crossing, that for some  
20 strange reason it didn't like. I want to take us to  
21 a point of where we can see kind of an evolution of  
22 the way things transpire. A hundred years ago there  
23 was a conflict in the equestrian community with  
24 cars. Things have to evolve. Things have to  
25 change. Things have to progress. Multi-use-trail

1 concept is a way of providing use of the State  
2 Parks, of our beautiful mountains, and areas, the  
3 best possible way. And I encourage that a hundred  
4 percent. But again train your horses properly. Don't  
5 just expect to put a twenty month old child on a  
6 horse and go out there without the proper training  
7 for that horse, on a multi use training system,  
8 thank you.

9 DAX DOWNEY: Hello, my name is Dax Downey. That's  
10 D-A-X, D-O-W-N-E-Y. Um, I am in support of keeping  
11 the trails multi use. It's important that  
12 California and the State Parks provide useful multi  
13 use trail systems. It's a shame that there are very  
14 few people who oppose these opportunities and want  
15 the trails to themselves. State Parks has followed  
16 the guidelines and and policies to determine that  
17 these trails should be multi use. Here in Oroville,  
18 State Parks has created a public process where  
19 hikers, equestrians, and cyclists and other users  
20 participate in decision making. The fact that there  
21 are a few out spoken people who disagree with the  
22 process does not justify rejecting the decisions  
23 that were made. And when I say out spoken people, I  
24 am not generalizing equestrians or all of  
25 equestrians or anybody, or any group. I think that

1 most of us will agree that there has not been any  
2 conflict, or won't be. I think that most of us  
3 would agree that there have not been any conflicts  
4 and there won't be any conflicts by leaving these  
5 trails multi use. I think working together with  
6 communication and education and being responsible  
7 for ourselves on public property is what is most  
8 important. Not to be so quick to do away with one  
9 user group. I think the problem that most people  
10 have in this room is to keep the trails available to  
11 everyone and not exclude everybody.

12 JAN HILL: My name is Jan Hill. I'm a local Oroville  
13 resident. I'm a school teacher here. Mother of  
14 bike rider, and equestrian, I'm an equestrian. I've  
15 been a 4H leader, in a horse group for five years.  
16 Involved with the Junior Posse. I also serve with  
17 Dax and others, on the bikes' Skate Park Committee.  
18 Um, Pleasure Rider for about 35 years. Been on the  
19 Cheif Josheph Ride three times. That's hundred  
20 miles a summer, in Idaho and Montana. Ridden on the  
21 Continental Divide. I volunteer on the love  
22 endurance ride. I'd like to thank Rick Longley, our  
23 local newspaper person, for clear and concise  
24 summary of the bureaucracies involved. As a school  
25 teacher I still had to get a pad and paper and write

1 down who was involved and how they were involved.  
2 I'm thankful that we can be discussing horses and  
3 bikes with our country ready to go to war. I am  
4 opposed to all trails being multi use. I don't know  
5 why the bike riders want to ride on a manure layden  
6 trail, I have trouble understanding this. I feel  
7 like I guess like, we're the equestrians are being  
8 kind of pushed out. My son has ridden on the Brad  
9 Freeman Trail and he's talked about he and his  
10 buddies in earlier years, riding down like at 30 or  
11 40 miles an hour, I'm not sure that those bikes can  
12 go that fast, I don't know, but I wouldn't want to  
13 be on the trail. I have a young I'd like to take  
14 out there to help with her training, but I would be  
15 hesitant if I knew I had to encounter bikes. I think  
16 bikes will push the horses out eventually, as the  
17 man ealier said, a hundred years ago it was the  
18 model Ts and the horses, and here we are again, it's  
19 machines verses animals it seems to be. I believe  
20 that the demographics of our future population will  
21 show that a majority of our leisure time persuits  
22 will be by retirees, and they'll be a smaller  
23 population of the work force that really won't have  
24 time to go out do either bike riding, or horseback  
25 riding, and I think we need to think of that. I

1 think we need to think out of the box, and enjoy  
2 what we have and if we can have some multi use  
3 trails and some separate trails, I would certainly  
4 support that. Especially our horse camp, and our  
5 Dan Beebe Trail. Keep the horse camp as destination  
6 for visitors, and for, to keep bike and horsemen  
7 safe, and I strongly support some multi use trails,  
8 and some separate use trails, thank you.

9 STEVEN PROE: Thank you, my name is Steven Proe, I'm  
10 from Greenwood, and I'm an equestrian. These  
11 questions are focused towards state water resources,  
12 and to State Parks, and they should be construed as  
13 being questions not just statements as to how I  
14 feel. Why has not the State Park come forward and  
15 provided the means to accept input from all user  
16 groups as to what they wish at Lake Oroville so that  
17 we don't have to have a 150 people from different  
18 user groups at each others necks. It's the  
19 responsibility of the government to plan and  
20 provide, and fund the trail system. Why haven't  
21 they done that. Why haven't they provided a list or  
22 a sheet of paper to everyone and to provide a web  
23 site that says or asks what do you want to see at  
24 Lake Oroville. That hasn't been done. Why haven't  
25 they provided adequate money to maintain all of the

1 trails at Lake Oroville. Why haven't they done a  
2 base line study for Lake Oroville for trails. Why  
3 haven't they provided a caring capacity for the  
4 trails at Lake Oroville. Why have they not built  
5 new trails, single track or multi use without  
6 impacting, and compromising other users groups. Why  
7 do they pit different user groups against each other,  
8 because they don't do the aforementioned. We don't  
9 need to be fighting each other. What we need to be  
10 doing is to petition the Government and tell them  
11 what we want. As if we weren't against each other  
12 which we shouldn't be. There's more than enough land  
13 out there. There's more than enough money, and yet  
14 they've got us fighting. Tell 'em what you want,  
15 make 'em do it, it's the law. You have the law on  
16 your side you need to use it. All of these nice  
17 fuzzy feelings and fuzzy sayings that you've said  
18 tonight, don't mean a whole bunch as far as law  
19 because the law is what's going to decide the  
20 outcome of this project. If you don't use the law  
21 whatever side your on, or all sides, you lose.  
22 Because they'll take the money from the revenue.  
23 SUSAN FRY: My name is Susan Fry, that's F, as in  
24 Frank, R-Y. And I'm a member of the Folsome-Auburn  
25 Trail Riders Coalition. A member of the American

1 River Bike Assistants and also a member of SAS,  
2 which is a womens' mountain biking group in  
3 Sacramento. And, you know, I had a lot of things  
4 written down here, but people have said most of  
5 them, but I just want to point out a couple of  
6 things. As I've sat here that I've seen, is the  
7 passion that we all have. We have some people who  
8 are passionate for mountain biking, some passionate  
9 for trail running, like Tanya. We have people that  
10 are passionate for their horses. I think what we  
11 need to do is all come together, and somehow build  
12 on those passions, so that we can have collaboration  
13 and consensus. One of the words I hate the most.  
14 Consensus to me, is everybody is equally unhappy.  
15 That's about the answer for consensus. One thing  
16 Kathie Orozco pointed out, was she went biking in  
17 the midwest. I want to point out you need to savor  
18 what you have here. I grew up in the midwest, and I  
19 go back there every once in a while to visit my  
20 family. There is no public land. When I want to  
21 ride my mountain bike there, I ride down the road to  
22 some of my family's property where I can actually  
23 get out there. What we have here is amazing. Let's  
24 not fight over it. Let's use it to its' most full  
25 benefit. And we talk about the money we have for



1 all of these great new trails. To me it seems like  
2 we want to use that money for more multi use trails,  
3 so that we can limit, or at least decrease the use  
4 on any one particular trail, so that then we reduce  
5 those conflicts, but yet in doing that we increase  
6 the fun for everybody, and that gives trails us the  
7 ability to have trails that are for beginners, for  
8 intermediate, and for advanced riders. Both  
9 mountain bikes and horses riders. So let's take  
10 what we have, and use it to it's fullest benefit  
11 instead of trying to hide in it in our pocket,  
12 because that's just not fair. And at the beginning  
13 somebody pointed out about the population growth in  
14 California, it's going to be 50 million by 2020, and  
15 I mean, that is amazing. We may be able to stand  
16 here today and argue about multi use trails whether  
17 they're good or bad, but when there are 50 million  
18 people in this state, you may have a single  
19 designated use trail, but you're not going to be  
20 able to monitor that. There's no way you can pay  
21 State Parks enough money to have enough rangers out  
22 there to keep everybody off of it. So let's look to  
23 the future and try to work together today, to make  
24 it better later.

25 KERRY KELLEY: The trails, our trails are here for

1 all of us to shar. My name is Kerry Kelly, sorry.  
2 And and I lope just with our voices here, what I'm  
3 hearing is everyone uses the trails. I've been a  
4 life long equestrian and an avid cyclist. I 'm just  
5 an outdoor enthusiast, and I think the fear I have  
6 is that the trails will slowly diminish for all of  
7 us. We need to work together, everyone. Share the  
8 trails, and etiquette education is necessary. I've  
9 been on a horse that's spooked, and I know what it's  
10 like, you know, to come bolting off. So education  
11 is the key and I think together we can work it out.  
12 I know I want too. I don't want to loose any of the  
13 trails for any of the uses I enjoy, thank you.

14 RALPH LOONEY: My name is Ralph Looney. I live in  
15 Yuba City, and it's really heartening to see the  
16 crowd that turned out tonight, and I hope the public  
17 agencies take note. I've been for trails all my  
18 life, and I think that's something that we've really  
19 neglected in our society, and I think we need to  
20 develop more trails for everybody so we don't get so  
21 congested. I a do a lot of trail riding. I'm a  
22 member of Back Country Horsemen, Sutter-Buttes,  
23 unit. I belong to the Tahoe Rim Trail, Pacific  
24 Crest Trail Association. Um there's a twenty-six  
25 hundred mile trail where there's no mountain bikes

1 or mechanized at all on it, from Mexico to Canada.  
2 This last September I rode the Tahoe rim trail  
3 starting at Echo Summit and going counter clockwise,  
4 and 97 percent of the bikers that was on this trail,  
5 this is a multi use trail, were just great, but  
6 there was three people who endangered my life, and I  
7 didn't like that. I had a pack horse with me, which  
8 I probably, you know, that's not helping the  
9 situation, but a horse is a prey animal, they take  
10 flight. Most people don't understand what the brain  
11 power is of a horse and how it works, and I don't,  
12 but I put my horse in a round pen, rode my bike, did  
13 a whole bunch of things, spooking him, to get him in  
14 shape to go on the Tahoe rim trail, and I've met  
15 bikes on the Pacific Crest trail also, and motor  
16 cycles. But everything coming on ahead there was no  
17 problem. It's when they come up, the bikers now  
18 take note, when they come up behind horses that  
19 create a problem. Especially, when you have about  
20 125 pound black lab and his horse, and you hear  
21 every breath he takes, and he runs up, and these  
22 guys are going 20 miles an hour, you know, and I'm  
23 going three, and my pack horse goes wild, and those  
24 boxes stick out there and they have a tendency do  
25 run over anything and everything, and we just happen

1 to have a good place in the trail where we could do  
2 a lot of rodeoing, and not get over a cliff or up  
3 against a log, or something else, but I'm as an  
4 equestrian, I think we should have seperate tracks  
5 for horses and bicycles. If you have a big, you  
6 know, eight foot wide trail that's one thing. The  
7 last time I was Dan Beebe Trail it was pretty  
8 narrow, kind of a wilderness setting. I don't think  
9 that, you know, historically, is for horses, and  
10 that railroad grade there. You put horses and bikes  
11 mixed together you're going to have problems. Now  
12 this is good way to exclude equestrians from a lot  
13 of the trails. The narrow trail is to have bikes on  
14 there. I will not go back to the east side of Tahoe  
15 where there's all kinds of mountain bikes.

16 LUCIAN B. VANDEGRIFT: My name is Lucian Vandegrift.  
17 And since people seem to be giving them history, I  
18 think I'm the oldest one who is speaking. I'm 76  
19 years old. I've been riding bicycles since I was  
20 about 8 years old. I've had my first horse since I  
21 was five years old, and I've been a distance runner,  
22 run half marathons, and I've ridden on the  
23 Tibus(sic) three times, which is a 100 mile  
24 endurance ride. I've belonged to a lot of horse  
25 groups, the -- well, probably the granddaddy of the

1 horse groups is Rancheros Visadores, that I've been  
2 a of member since 1965. The Modoc Tribe Riders, I  
3 belonged to for a number of years. And I belong to  
4 the Commanche Riders, which is a group, primarily,  
5 from Chico. So I've done a lot of riding, in a lot  
6 of places, including in Kenya, Australia, Argentina.  
7 So I've been on a lot of horseback trips. Now,  
8 riding bikes, depends upon the rider. And something  
9 that is perhaps not known to the people who ride  
10 bikes, is that when you're riding a horse it's not  
11 just one person thinking, you've got another animal,  
12 and it's independant, and it's animal that frightens  
13 very easily, and when they're frightened they run,  
14 they jump, they do unpredictable things. And I  
15 don't care how well a horse is trained, you've heard  
16 people talking about how well they train their  
17 horses, horses can spook and do very dangerous  
18 things. Now, in the riding I've done over in the,  
19 uh, Race, what is it, Race Point -- whatever it is,  
20 over towards San Francisco, and I've ridden on some  
21 rides across the Marin County, two different trips.  
22 We came across a lot of bicycles. Bicycles terrify  
23 horses unless they're really accustomed. So, say  
24 what you will, I think, as a rider and, and I also  
25 got three mountain bikes, and I've ridden mountain

1 bikes for years. Horses and bicycles are  
2 incompatible. And if you don't think so, then get  
3 on a horse and let somebody come charging up behind  
4 you on a bicycle, and see what happens. I don't  
5 care how well the horse is trained. Now we talk  
6 about the history, I rode with Dan Beebe on the Dan  
7 Beebe trail. I started well riding with him in  
8 1959. I'm familiar with that trail. It is not  
9 designed as a multi purpose trail it never has been  
10 until it's being apparently, still preserved as a  
11 mountain trail, or some of it as a horse trail. But  
12 I think you ought to think seriously about the factf  
13 that a person on a horse is handling an  
14 unpredictable animal, that frightens easily, and  
15 does very dangerous things. We have plenty of space  
16 to have trails for bicycles, we people can go as  
17 fast as they want, and they can charge around, and  
18 they can have a great time, but you can't do that  
19 and expect to have horses where people can ride  
20 safely on those same trails. So I'm very much in  
21 favor of having multiple use on a suitable trails,  
22 but having appropriate use for horses on other  
23 trails.

24 AARON HILL: My name is Aaron Hill. I've been a  
25 resident of Oroville for about 25 years. I've been

1 an equestrian for about a dozen years. Everybody  
2 said everything that's on my note, except we, we  
3 truly have a moment in time. Things will be  
4 established now that, you know, we will live with  
5 now for the next 50 or 60 years. Why don't we do it  
6 right? They say we have the money. We obviously  
7 have the land, and I agree with what the gentlemen  
8 before me said, riding a horse. It hasn't really  
9 been brought up, but there's two reasons. There's  
10 different reasons why you ride a bike, and why you  
11 ride a horse, and for me thrill is not when I ride  
12 my horse, it's pure enjoyment. I don't want to, you  
13 know, do it fast. I don't want to -- there's enough  
14 foreseen circumstances that you have to be ready  
15 for. Oroville is very special. We do have our  
16 camp, and we do have the bike race in the spring.  
17 You know, both of them I think are needed in this  
18 area. I don't see why, you know, we can't have  
19 separate trails for some of it, multi trails for  
20 some, and promote both, and have the best of both  
21 worlds. Thank you.

22 MARK HENNELLY: Hi, I'm Mark Hennelly with the  
23 California Water Fowl Association. We're an  
24 eighteen thousand member, wild life conservation  
25 group that restores and enhances wetlands and water

1 fowl habitat, and I just wanted to confine my  
2 comments to the Thermolito afterbay, which some of  
3 you may know, is a fish and game wild life area. We  
4 feel in that area the uses must be compatible with  
5 the wild life purpose of the area. Typically, at  
6 other wild life areas that has been hunting,  
7 fishing, wildlife viewing, conservation, education,  
8 as well as other wildlife dependant recreational  
9 activities, that fund wildlife conservation. That  
10 area in particular is an important waterfowl and  
11 nesting and brooding area in the spring, and summer,  
12 and it's also very vulnerable to disturbance. We  
13 recorded exceptionally high nesting densities for  
14 waterfowl there in the past. It's, it's also key  
15 breeding breed area for mallards, which are very  
16 important. In fact the post important breeding duck  
17 in California, and other ground nesting birds such  
18 as quail and pheseants also depend upon on that  
19 area. Currently, Oroville wildlife area already  
20 permits uses that are rarely alowed at other  
21 wildlife areas. I'm thinking of jet skiing, and  
22 some other uses. What we want to make sure is that  
23 any other additional uses, um, that they don't  
24 adversely impact the area, and we want to make sure,  
25 you know, the key motive impacts from all of these



1 recreational uses don't adversely affect the  
2 wildlife values of the area, thanks.

3 LONNA STARCK: Hello, I'm Lonna Stark, and I want to  
4 talk about how a horse actually sees, and this is  
5 what makes the whole tremendous difference about  
6 this whole idea. I'm not at all for horses and  
7 bikes to be on the same trail. I was almost double  
8 pushed off the Tumush(sic) one time. I have a  
9 doubled crossed Arabian, which is a very, very,  
10 intelligent horse. Um, I want you to know that  
11 there vision is very sensitive to movement. The  
12 horse has a hard time seeing depth. Your horse has  
13 a blind spot that extends about four feet in front  
14 of his face. If you approach him from the front he  
15 cannot see you until you're about about six inches  
16 from his face. Even when you are that close, he  
17 only sees your shoulders and not the middle you your  
18 body, and even that much is distorted. Horses  
19 cannot see the ground near their front feet. They  
20 cannot see their own knees and chest. Horses also  
21 have a blind spot directly behind them. This is the  
22 most dangerous blind spot should the horse become  
23 frightened and kick at you. Horses may  
24 occassionally spook or suddenly kick on unexpected  
25 noises in their blind spots of where they cannot